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through these ingeniously devised tariffs, which fall most heavily upon the great consuming public.

Has not the time come for the plain people to call a halt! Has not the time come for the indignant toilers in peaceful occupations to hurl those mischief-makers who are responsible for this craze of militarism out of their positions of influence! Has not the solemn, ugly farce of seeing Christian nations build ten million dollar bulldogs in the remote possibility of being called upon to match them against the costly bulldogs of their neighbors, unless perchance these expensive creations should before that have been relegated to the scrap heap by some new device—has not that solemn, ugly farce about played itself out! The welfare of the people is the supreme law of the land. It is the supreme law of all lands, and anyone who has visited Europe, where every third peasant carries a useless and burdensome soldier on his back as he goes forth to his toil, knows that this modern evil of militarism is a mighty menace to the welfare of any people.

The chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in our own Congress last winter called the attention of the House of Representatives to the fact that in pensions and preparations for possible war the United States is spending more money to-day than any other nation in the world. He called attention to the fact that the appropriations for military and naval affairs for the coming year would exceed by twenty-nine millions of dollars all the money which the United States government has spent from the beginning of the Republic up to the present hour upon public buildings. He spoke also of the fact that this nation, which we like to think of as a non-military nation, is spending at the present time sixty-five per cent., almost two-thirds, of the total national revenue on pensions and preparations for war. What an abnormal condition for a republic whose splendid history has been almost entirely one of peace!

Would that our own country might take higher ground in this whole matter! Would that there might go out from us a splendid endorsement of the principle of arbitration, a strong insistence upon the method of international litigation before such tribunals as have been outlined at the Hague Conferences and a stinging rebuke to this policy of increasing these deadly and burdensome armaments! Would that our land might be a leader and a Messiah among the nations in achieving that magnificent fulfilment when the promised Messiah, the Prince of Peace, shall reign forever and ever.

Risk is involved, men say, in refusing these costly armaments which are sapping the lifeblood of the leading nations of Europe. Risk is involved undoubtedly; but if we really want peace, why not take that risk in showing the nations that such is our desire? It would be a magnificent form of moral venture. Risk is involved—so be it! A far greater risk to the general welfare and to the perpetuity of our institutions is involved in the opposite course. Why should not we, as a land of high principles and shining ideals, a land of schools and of churches, make the moral venture of staking our future upon a splendid obedience to the appeal of the great Messiah! Beat your swords into plowshares! Beat your spears into pruning hooks! In peaceful, joyous industry let not the nations learn war any more, but place their reliance increasingly upon properly constituted courts of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes,

and the great blessing of Almighty God, which maketh rich and bringeth no sorrow therewith, shall be yours!

Annual Meeting of the Peace Society, London.

The annual public meeting of the British Peace Society (London, 47 New Broad Street, E. C.) seems to have been this year an uncommonly interesting occasion. It was held in the Mansion House, on May 18. The Lord Mayor of London, Sir G. W. Truscott, presided. With him on the platform were the Bishop of Hereford, Lord Weardale, president of the British Interparliamentary Group, Lord Courtney of Penwith, president of the London Peace Congress last summer, the Portuguese Minister and others.

Letters of regret, expressing full sympathy with the purpose of the meeting, were read from the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord Chancellor, the Bishop of London, Lord Avebury, Dr. Clifford and Winston Churchill.

After the Lord Mayor had welcomed the Society, the Bishop of Hereford was introduced and moved a resolution which stated that, in view of the increasing sense of security and mutual suspicion fostered by the constant additions to national armaments in time of peace and of the resulting financial burden which was rapidly becoming intolerable, the meeting declared its belief that to put an end to such continual increase of armaments had become the supreme duty of every civilized state, and therefore requested the government to enter into negotiations with the rulers of other states with a view to mutual limitation and eventual reduction of armaments. The Bishop said that it was a significant thing that that resolution should go out from the Mansion House. It gave their cause a stamp which nothing else could give. The resolution expressed what was really deep down in the heart of the great mass of the English people. He had come to the conclusion that, however desirous of peace governments and monarchs might be, it was in the heart of the people that the deepest desire for peace was to be found, and that was because the people were the first to suffer from all the evils of war. He had the profound conviction that if there could be a referendum in this country on that question to the great mass of the people there would be an almost unanimous vote in support of the principles contained in the resolution. And while he believed in the profound desire of peace underlying all our life, he had the same belief with regard to the people of Germany. [Hear, hear.] They must go on preaching the gospel of peace with patience and with hope. He felt that their greatest enemy was the greedy commercial militarism. In the church they were always talking of brotherhood, and then all the days of the week they were talking about rivalry. Which was to prevail? Let them hope it would be the spirit of brotherhood, and that the other spirit would be driven into the background. [Applause.] There were two things they must do—persistently endeavor to educate our own public opinion, and press upon the government the new policy which was embodied in the resolution.

Lord Weardale, who seconded the resolution, said that there seemed to be in this country a peculiar tendency for the public mind to be seized by certain spasms of

panic which swept through the country fanned by an unscrupulous press. It seemed to be a sort of influenza. Scientists were busily engaged trying to find the bacillus of influenza; he wished they would try to find the bacillus of the warlike feeling. Since the first Hague Conference there had been a hundred treaties for arbitration signed between various countries, but unfortunately they were not universal and compulsory. He hoped the next step would be to make arbitration compulsory and that nations would not be allowed to go to war until they had submitted their case to an independent tribunal. [Applause.]

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Lord Courtnay then moved a resolution in favor of the principle of arbitration. He insisted upon the necessity of pushing our government and all governments towards making treaties of arbitration. Those treaties should cover all subjects, should be without reserve, and should be as comprehensive as suggested by Lord Wear-dale. That which would give the best promise of peace was the inculcation of the substitution of the idea of justice for force, of righteousness for mere physical power, an appeal to the equities of people instead of an appeal to their strength and their destructive forces. As to the statement that the way to secure peace was to be ready for war, it called to his mind an older statement: "We desire peace; I labor for peace; but when I speak to them thereof they make them ready for battle." It would seem that in the opinion of that ancient seer, to make oneself ready for battle was not the best answer to an appeal for peace. Anything which could not be justified as a sheer necessity in the growth of our armaments must be denounced as a provocation to war. We increased our armaments because our neighbors across the North Sea were increasing theirs, and they were increasing theirs because they were afraid of our strength and power and of our intention to interfere, as they thought, with the growth of their commerce and the development of their industry. It might seem incredible that any people should entertain such sentiments. Nevertheless, it was true that those sentiments existed, and that anxiety as to the use we might make of our power was prevalent in Berlin, dominated the Reichstag, and supported the Kaiser and his Chancellor in demands for the armaments to which they were committed. How was it that our forces could be supposed to be a threat to Germany? One of the great reasons was, the continued maintenance by this country of the doctrine that it was right and proper in time of war for our naval forces to destroy the peaceful commerce of our enemy. We were alone in persisting in the maintenance of that doctrine. Our naval experts held that it would be useful to us. If we could not afford to run any risk or give up any advantage, how could we expect other nations to meet us halfway or anyway? As to the press, that was largely what the people made it, and they must not think so much of reforming the press as of reforming the heart of the people. He could not pretend to cherish any unbounded hope for the future, but he still hoped that nation might be linked with nation and that the brotherhood of Englishmen might spread to one of Europeans, to one of white men, and to one which would take in Chinese and Hindoos. [Cheers.]

Mr. A. Henderson seconded the resolution on behalf of organized labor, and also condemned the doctrine of

the right to destroy private property at sea in time of war.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Peace Society of the City of New York.

Notes of Work for the Month of June.

BY WILLIAM H. SHORT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

It has been the policy of the Directors of the New York Peace Society from the date of its organization to furnish *THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE* to all its members at the expense of the Society. The subscription of new members will begin with this number, and that of old members is renewed for one year. The paper is sent not only because *THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE* is the approved organ of the peace movement in America, but from the conviction that it is the ablest publication in this field on either side of the Atlantic.

The Executive Committee of the Society at its last meeting authorized the addition of another large room to the office. The quarters now comprise a suite 22 feet by 45 feet, which are very well arranged for the purposes of the Society. Two private offices have been petitioned off, one for the American Scandinavian Society and the other for the American College for Girls at Constantinople. In the carrying out of the policy of affiliating societies and institutions of similar purpose with the Society, it has been hoped that a considerable number of such might eventually occupy adjacent offices with adequate directors' and assembly rooms in common. By the arrangement already made, this plan has begun in a small way to be carried into effect.

The opening of a permanent office by the American Scandinavian Society, with Mr. Carl Lorentzen as secretary, has been made possible by the generosity of Mr. Niels Paulson of Brooklyn, a leading Scandinavian citizen, who has been much interested in the Society since its inception. Mr. Lorentzen has been for several years at the head of the engineering department of New York University, but has been willing to resign and take up this work on account of his belief in its future prospects for usefulness. One of the first important acts of this Society has been the arrangement for a course of lectures in the three Scandinavian Universities of Upsala, Christiania and Copenhagen by a distinguished American scholar and professor, Samuel T. Dutton, whom the Peace Society has the honor to call its secretary. Professor Dutton's lectures will be on the ideals and methods of American education.

Senator Elihu Root's address on "The Causes of War" has been lately published by the Society, and copies may be obtained by calling on or addressing the office, 507 Fifth Avenue. The speech was delivered at the dinner which the Peace Society tendered Mr. Root last winter, and has been circulated as one of the regular documents of the American branch of the Association for International Conciliation of which Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler is president.

At the request of the president of the Society, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, we have sent out about three thousand reprints of an editorial which appeared in *The Independent* of April 29 and an article by Mr. Henry G. Granger. The following is from the editorial:

"We are specially interested in the suggestion made